

B V

352.0742B

E65

FINANCIAL REPORT



OF THE

TOWN OF EPSOM,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1878.

CONCORD:

CHARLES C. PEARSON & COMPANY, PRINTERS.

1878.

THE GREAT WALL

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

FINANCIAL REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Received of Samuel Martin, treasurer for 1876,	\$386.26
Amount remaining in hands of Warren Tripp, collector for 1875,	667.99
Amount remaining in hands of George C. Knowles, collector for 1876,	1,946.75
Received of state treasurer, savings-bank tax,	627.03
railroad “	21.30
literary fund,	87.72
insurance tax,	4.50
County-pauper bills,	864.29
Received by note,	2,965.02
Amount committed to George C. Knowles for collection,	7,950.81
Interest on taxes for 1876,	40.18
Interest on taxes for 1875,	35.26
John Griffin, right of suffrage,	7.00
	\$15,604.11

CREDIT AS FOLLOWS:

By state tax paid,	\$832.00
county tax paid,	789.98
town charges, paid,	194.61
non-resident highway tax worked out,	47.07
county-pauper bills,	864.29
notes and interest paid,	6,617.63
remaining in treasury,	1,200.96

SCHOOL ORDERS PAID.

George W. Batchelder, district No. 1,	\$183.46
Daniel Yeaton, district No. 2,	116.48
James L. Bartlett, district No. 3,	70.55
Samuel Fowler, district No. 4,	158.38

Albion Locke, district No. 5,	62.53
Jonathan P. Jones, district No. 6,	58.45
Cyrus O. Brown, district No. 7,	89.06
Henry C. Lovejoy, district No. 8,	56.85
John H. Fife, district No. 9,	109.25
George C. Knowles, district No. 10,	62.53
George H. Rand, Union district,	39.84

\$1,007.38

Due district No. 5, \$8.34.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

B. W. Sanborn & Co., stationery and blanks,	\$6.87
B. W. Sanborn & Co., town officer,	2.50
J. H. Dolber, insurance on town-house,	13.00
Albert Cass, finishing room in town-house,	45.00
Albert Cass, repairing roof of town-house,	3.00
Isaac Parker, one foot of wood for town-house,	.50
William Tripp, stair-slats for town-house,	.35
Freight on table, chairs and stove for town-house,	1.53

\$72.75

BREAKING ROADS, 1876-77.

B. B. Yeaton,	\$17.87
Lucian Heath,	5.12
Warren Yeaton,	3.75
D. M. Philbrick,	12.00
A. S. Davis,	4.00
Constantine Wood,	4.56
Walter Chesley,	2.50
Cyrus Marden,	21.10
Cyrus O. Brown,	1.00
Newell Brown,	1.00
T. F. Kelley,	2.25
Robert C. Brown,	2.50
Isaac A. Parker,	1.50
Charles Ames,	2.50
T. F. Kelley,	1.00
Joseph B. Cass,	16.00

William T. Sanders,	6.00
Benjamin Bickford,	4.65
E. H. Bickford,	4.00
J. F. Bickford,	3.50
William S. Brown,	13.75
W. L. Otis,	8.85
John C. Smith,	2.35
James L. Bartlett,	3.85
T. B. Robinson,	2.55
S. T. Page,	4.40
H. T. Page,	.90
J. T. Bickford,	4.50
Daniel Yeaton,	3.63
C. W. Towle,	4.15
J. M. Burnham,	1.43
H. F. Sanborn,	12.00
William Bickford,	2.21
William A. Sanders,	2.70
	<hr/>
	\$184.07

DAMAGE TO SHEEP BY DOGS.

Henry F. Sanborn,	\$23.72
John Chesley,	9.19
William T. Sanders,	7.76
Jeremiah Sanborn,	7.66
Abby J. Haynes,	4.60
Charles H. Hall,	3.83
Lucy C. Sherburne,	3.83
Hiram Batchelder,	3.06
James M. Brown,	3.06
Joseph Lawrence,	2.29
	<hr/>
	\$69.00

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Albion Locke, bridge-plank and stringers,	\$5.72
James C. Yeaton, work on Prescott bridge,	9.50
James M. Burnham,	5.89
John T. Bickford,	4.00
E. Twombly, irons for	.85

W. L. Otis, lumber for bridge,	4.00
William Goss, bridge-plank,	6.43
Newell Brown, work on turnpike,	3.00
Cyrus O. Brown, "	3.00
William T. Sanders, "	1.50
Albert L. Sanders, "	1.50
Warren Yeaton, "	14.00
Lucian Heath, "	3.00
T. F. Kelley, "	8.50
George Sanders, Jr., "	6.00
T. F. Kelley, work on northeast road,	3.50
R. C. Brown, work on turnpike,	1.50
Jacob E. Griffin, work on turnpike,	4.50
Samuel B. Marden, snowing bridge,	1.50
Horace Bickford, 3355 feet bridge-plank,	50.32
1790 feet stringers,	26.85
750 feet railing,	11.25
George S. Bixby, work on turnpike,	2.25
George W. Ham, "	7.50
B. B. Yeaton, "	12.25
A. J. Burnham, labor on highway,	3.00
Walter Chesley, work on turnpike,	19.45
drawing bridge-plank,	1.00
work on northeast road,	3.00
fixing Cass bridge,	1.50
E. A. Twombly, work on northeast road,	.75
Walmon S. Derby, work on turnpike,	1.00
J. E. Chesley, "	3.00
George C. Knowles, work on turnpike-bridge,	3.00
Alonzo Wallace, work on highway,	3.50
Daniel C. Ayer, work on highway,	9.70

\$247.21

TOWN CHARGES.

Paid H. F. Sanborn and D. G. Chesley, services as aud- itors,	\$6.00
Samuel Martin, services as selectman, 1876,	7.00
H. F. Sanborn, taking depositions,	2.00

Paid John Chesley, feeding and lodging tramps,	4.00
Walter Chesley, services as selectman for 1876,	8.00
A. H. French, M. D., 7 certificates of births, from April 1, 1875, to April 1, 1876,	1.75
A. H. French, M. D., 25 certificates of births and deaths, from April 1, 1876, to March 31, 1877,	6.25
Humphrey, Dodge & Co., 1 two-quart measure for town sealer,	.25
Gust Walker, 1 soldering-copper and solder, .	.78
Cyrus O. Brown, school-house tax in full,	25.16
G. Frank Green, for damage to horse and sleigh,	30.00
W. T. Sanders, 11 guideposts,	5.50
D. M. Knowles, services as selectman, 1876,	7.50
J. L. Wells, bounty on fox,	.50
B. B. Yeaton, bounty on henhawk,	.20
John W. Heath, bounty on henhawk,	.20
W. P. Babb, 30 chestnut posts,	8.00
H. A. Holmes, sawing guideposts,	1.58
S. F. Brown, public watering-place,	3.00
William Goss, public watering-place,	3.00
Albion Locke, school-money due for 1876,	6.47
Henry F. Sanborn, writing depositions,	2.00
John Chesley, feeding and lodging tramps,	11.00
William Tripp, guideboards,	1.75
C. C. French, lettering guideboards,	5.98
Samuel Martin, 108 feet chestnut for guideposts,	1.92
George W. Ham, setting guideposts,	1.50
Gorham R. Worth, recording births and deaths,	6.59
John H. Fife, overtax,	10.00
Z. Leighton, damage to land, and repairing highway,	2.00
S. B. Marden, making guideboards,	1.15
Walter Chesley, fixing and getting guideboards painted,	2.00
Walter Chesley, setting guideposts,	2.00
Andrew S. Evans, boarding selectmen,	18.67
Henry F. Sanborn, writing depositions,	.50
A. L. Bunker, bounty on fox,	.50

\$194.61

Amount of abatements on George C. Knowles' list for 1876,	\$90.74
List for 1877,	10.00
Amount of abatements on Warren Tripp's list for 1875,	37.86
	<hr/>
	\$138.60

POOR ORDERS.

Paid Silver & Robinson, goods for Persis E. Bennett,	\$149.18
Sarah A. Bennett, for nursing	1.25
Ada E. Cobb,	1.00
Mary J. Saturley,	3.50
Mary Marden,	2.50
Eunice Marden,	7.00
Mary F. Drake,	2.50
Jeremiah Mack, sawing wood for	1.00
T. J. Doe,	2.25
Isaac A. Parker, 1 cord wood for	4.00
Geo. Sanders, Jr., 2 1-2 cords wood	10.00
Horace Bickford, 1 1-2 cords wood	3.75
A. H. French, M. D., medical aid	9.10
Silver & Robinson, goods for W. C. Bennett,	89.52
A. H. French, M. D., medical aid,	11.25
H. S. Knowles, goods for Osum Dowst,	43.00
J. C. Hall & Son,	16.50
Silver & Robinson,	2.65
A. H. French, M. D., medical aid for Osum Dowst,	20.00
Samuel Bickford, for board of Sally Wells,	81.99
Silver & Robinson, goods for T. J. Doe,	40.47
Hannah Marden, for nursing Mrs. T. J. Doe,	7.50
S. O. Wescott, for coffin and robe for Mrs. T. J. Doe,	10.00
Z. Leighton, 1-2 cord wood for T. J. Doe,	2.00
A. H. French, medical aid,	16.25
Abby J. Haynes, for board of Eliza A. Cotton,	76.00
Silver & Robinson, goods for Sarah Mason,	66.96
Silver & Robinson, goods for Rebecca Moody,	8.28
A. H. French, M. D., opium for Rebecca Moody,	45.10
Silver & Robinson, goods for Morrill Dickey,	27.92

Paid A. H. French, M. D., medical aid for Morrill Dickey,	3.75
Silver & Robinson, goods for Wm. Blaisdell's children,	26.00
Silver & Robinson, goods for Josiah Howe,	13.80
W. T. Sanders, for board of Joseph N. Mason,	16.57
J. C. Hall & Son, goods for Betsey Ham,	18.25
T. F. Kelley, wood for	4.50
Robert C. Brown,	4.50
Charles A. Steele,	8.50
Isaac A. Parker,	4.75
John T. Cotterell, shoes for	1.25
H. S. Knowles, aid for Colby Sherburne,	18.50
A. H. French, M. D., medical aid for Colby Sherburne,	32.00
John S. Hoyt, board of Betsey C. Gass,	104.00
Samuel Bickford, wood for Persis E. Bennett,	4.50
Z. Leighton, wood for Persis E. Bennett,	4.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,027.29

The last two bills have been paid since settlement with county commissioners, and are now due from county.

RECEIVED OF COUNTY FOR PAUPERS.

Persis E. Bennett,	\$197.08
William C. Bennett,	100.77
Osum Dowst,	82.15
Sally Wells,	81.99
Thomas J. Doe,	76.22
Eliza A. Cotton,	76.00
Sarah Mason,	66.96
Rebecca Moody,	53.38
Betsey Ham,	41.75
Morrill Dickey,	31.67
William Blaisdell's children,	26.00
Joseph N. Mason,	16.57
Josiah Howe,	13.80
	<hr/>
	\$864.29

POOR CHARGEABLE TO TOWN.

Betsey C. Gass is boarding at John S. Hoyt's in Chichester, at

two dollars per week. John C. Sherburne is receiving two dollars per week aid.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Joel Baker, services as S. S. committee,	\$40.00
Gorham R. Worth, services as town clerk,	15.00
Walter Chesley, services as selectman,	49.50
Warren Tripp, services as selectman,	55.00
George Sanders, Jr., services as selectman,	78.00
George Sanders, Jr., services as town treasurer,	12.00
	<hr/>
	\$249.50

RECAPITULATION.

Received as seen on first page.	
Paid state tax,	\$832.00
county tax,	789.98
support of schools,	1,007.38
highways and bridges,	247.21
breaking roads,	184.07
notes and interest,	6,617.63
incidental expenses,	72.75
abatement of taxes,	138.60
poor chargeable to town,	154.50
town officers,	249.50
town charges,	194.61
poor chargeable to county,	872.79

FINANCES OF THE TOWN.

Whole amount of debts by note,	\$23,006.58
Remaining in hands of collector of 1875,	269.34
1876,	255.91
1877,	2,400.81
Remaining in hands of town treasurer,	1,200.96
Total indebtedness of town by note, March, 1877, .	25,372.26
Total indebtedness of town by note, March, 1878,	23,006.58
Actual indebtedness of town, March, 1878,	18,879.58
Reduction of debt the past year,	3,491.68

GEORGE SANDERS, JR.,	} Selectmen of Epsom.
WARREN TRIPP,	
WALTER CHESLEY,	

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the selectmen and treasurer of the town of Epsom for the year ending March 1, 1878, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

Epsom, March 2, 1878.

SAMUEL MARTIN, }
HENRY F. SANBORN, } Auditors.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The School Committee respectfully submits the following report:

The whole amount of money raised by the town for school purposes is \$928.00; amount of literary fund, \$87.72.

Total number of scholars attending school during the year, exclusive of those who attended in the Union districts, 205; average attendance, 176. The whole length of schools for the year, one hundred and sixty-two and four fifths weeks; the average length of school to each district, a fraction over eighteen weeks.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

No. of district.	Summer and Winter.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	No. scholars in									
			Reading.	Spelling.	Arithmetic.	Grammar.	Geography.	Algebra.	Philosophy.	Penmanship.	Book-keeping.	Composition.
1..	Summer ...	Miss Lizzie M. Caswell	28	28	23	13	9	1	15	2		
	Winter ...	Mr. George O. Wiggin	29	29	25	13	8	3	15	2		
2..	Summer ...	Mrs. Angie M. Heath	42	42	26	10	19	2	2	15	6	3
	Winter ...	Mrs. Angie M. Heath	50	50	33	16	19	2	18	4	5	
3..	Summer ...	Miss Nettie R. Jones	16	16	11	5	5		12		2	
	Winter ...	Miss Susie J. Goodhue	15	15	12	7	7		12		6	3
4..	Summer ...	Miss Addie M. Sargent	35	35	24	4	14		18			
	Winter ...	Miss B. Anna Currier	36	36	27	15	21	4	3	19	15	
5..	Summer ...	Miss Eva Tasker	7	6	5	1			5			1
	Fall	Miss Eva Tasker	13	13	9	5	2	1	9	3		
6..	Sum. Un...	Miss Sarah E. Clarke										
	Winter ...	Mr. A. Palmer Chesley										
7..	Summer ...	Miss Olive E. Freese	12	12	9	1	5		9			
	Winter ...	Mr. Cyrus O. Brown	18	18	17		4		12	1		
8..	Summer ...	Miss Mattie A. Lake	9	9	5	3	5		4			
	Winter ...	Miss Georgietta Harvey	9	9	5	5	4		5		3	
9..	Summer ...	Rev. G. D. Garland	17	17	11	3	7		6			2
	Winter ...	Rev. G. D. Garland	26	26	21	8	14		10			1
10..	Summer ...	Miss M. Ella Marden	8	7	5		1		1			
	Winter ...	Miss M. Ella Marden	14	12	11	3	3		7			

The following is a brief statement of the condition of our schools :

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE.

Amount of school money assigned to the district, \$183.46
George W. Batchelder, Committee.

Summer term.—Miss Lizzie M. Caswell of Northwood, teacher. Wages per month, including board, \$25. Length of school, 10 weeks. Number of scholars, 28; average attendance, 21.

The teacher labored with patience; the scholars were studious and well disposed, and in recitations very prompt. The examination showed that the school had been not only number one by virtue of location, but also a number one school in point of improvement.

Winter term.—Mr. Geo. O. Wiggin of Pittsfield, teacher. Wages per month, including board, \$28. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 29; average attendance, 24

Mr. Wiggin worked hard for the welfare of the school, but with too little success. Some of the scholars made good improvement; but the discipline of the school a part of the time was so lax as to greatly obstruct its advancement. This was Mr. Wiggin's first attempt at teaching. With experience, and a little better knowledge of some of the different kinds of books used in our schools, he would make a good teacher.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.

Amount of school money, \$116.48
Daniel Yeaton, Committee.

Summer and winter terms.—Mrs. Angie M. Heath of Bristol, teacher both terms. Wages per month, including board: summer term, \$24; winter term, \$26. Length of school: summer term, 7 weeks; winter term, 9 4-5 weeks. Number of scholars: summer, 42; winter, 50. Average attendance: summer, 38 10-67; winter, 41 15-47.

Although this school is quite large—the largest in town—yet the teacher, by systematic plans and diligent efforts, did much for the benefit of each scholar during the summer term.

The conduct of most of the pupils is worthy of commendation. The labor required of the teacher here during the winter term was too much for most female teachers.

The teacher remarks: "I find the greatest trouble in having so many classes." There should be a uniformity in school-books in the schools here, and parents should co-operate with their teachers in forming the desired number of classes. We received no notice of the close of this term, consequently did not visit it but once. But from the fact that this was the teacher's fourth term here, and from information gathered from various sources, we shall venture to report the school a successful one, though from lack of sufficient time, on account of the number and variety of classes, some branches must have suffered more or less.

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE.

Amount of school money,	\$70.55
James L. Bartlett, Committee.	

Summer term.—Miss Nettie R. Jones of Hooksett, teacher. Wages per month, including board, \$18. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 16; average attendance, 14.4.

Your committee would speak in the highest terms of the management of this school the past year. The district has evidently learned how to secure a good school, and get the greatest benefit from the money expended. Miss Jones is a thorough scholar, and made persevering efforts to have a model school, with good success. In her method of government she was decided and resolute; consequently, the best of order prevailed.

Winter term.—Miss Susie J. Goodhue of Fremont, teacher. Wages per month, not including board, \$10. Length of school, 7 weeks. Number of scholars, 15; average attendance, 13 55-72.

This was Miss Goodhue's second term in this district. This fact, together with the fact that she was employed to keep a private school at the close of the term, indicates the character of the school as prompt, orderly and effective.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR.

Amount of school money, \$158.38
 Samuel Fowler, Committee.

Summer term.—Miss Addie M. Sargent of Warner, teacher. Wages per month, \$24. Length of school, 10 weeks. Number of scholars, 35; average attendance, 30.4.

There are many good scholars here, and some who make good improvement every term; but, from some cause, there was a lack of energy and interest—essentials requisite to the success of the pupil—on the part of many, during the term.

Winter term.—Miss B. Anna Currier of Deerfield, teacher. Wages per month, \$28. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 36; average attendance, 30.5.

The winter term was highly satisfactory in all respects. The teacher possesses a rare faculty for imparting accurate knowledge, and for securing the best of order with little effort. The school was benefited very much by the use of the little word WHY, especially the classes in arithmetic. Scholars were very constant in attendance, and manifested more than usual interest in the exercises of the school, which resulted in a very commendable improvement in all the branches attended to. The exercises in arithmetic and geography would be selected as approximating the nearest to perfection. The dialogues, declamations, &c., at the closing examination of each term, were entertaining to the many visitors as well as profitable to the scholars.

DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE.

Amount of school money, \$70.87
 Albion Locke, Committee.

Summer and fall terms.—Both terms were taught by Miss Eva Tasker, of Pittsfield. Miss Tasker was without experience as a teacher, which accounts, perhaps, for some mistakes she made during the summer term. The few scholars in attendance at the close of the term acquitted themselves well. The fall term was eminently successful. The attendance of several worthy scholars from an adjoining district

awakened a new interest in this little school. Classes in reading and book-keeping made more than ordinary improvement. We never knew a class to make more *real progress* in book-keeping, in the same length of time, than the class of tyros made here. Master Roscoe E. Otis is worthy of much praise for his painstaking and skill in penmanship.

DISTRICT NUMBER SIX.—UNION.

Amount of school money assigned the district by the town of Epsom,	\$ 58.45
Amount assigned by town of Pittsfield,	125.89
Jona. P. Jones, Committee.	

Summer and fall terms.—Miss Sarah E. Clarke, teacher both terms. Length of each term, 8 weeks. Number of scholars each term, 37; average attendance: summer term, 33; fall term, 30.

Winter term.—A. Palmer Chesley, teacher. Length of school, 9 4-5 weeks. Number of scholars, 39; average attendance, 30. For further particulars, see Pittsfield report.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN.

Amount of school money,	\$89.06
Cyrus O. Brown, Committee.	

Summer term.—Miss Olive E. Freese, teacher. Wages per month, \$16. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 12; average attendance 10 1-2.

We were much pleased with the manner in which the teacher imparted instruction to her pupils, and with the general appearance of the school, which made good improvement, under the plan of knowing what is gone over,—not going over that which is not known.

Winter term.—Mr. Cyrus O. Brown, teacher. Wages per month, \$30. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 18; average attendance, 15.

Mr. Brown has so long been successful in teaching, that it would be needless for me to say that he was successful here. He fully sustained his former reputation as a good teacher.

Such an one not only has a thorough knowledge of the branches to be taught, but possesses the faculty of imparting that knowledge to others. These two essential qualities in a teacher,—knowledge and an aptness to teach—when united with a due amount of energy and perseverance, seldom fail to produce a good school. A class in Colburn's arithmetic, and the classes in reading and spelling, are worthy of special mention.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT.

Amount of school money, \$56.85
Henry Lovejoy, Committee.

Summer term.—Miss Mattie A. Lake of Pembroke, teacher. Wages per month, not including board, \$10. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 9; average attendance, 8.1.

We agree with the teacher's remarks in her school register, "that she entered upon her duties with the full determination to spare no efforts to make the school a profitable one to those committed to her care." We think that the teacher's resolution was kept in good faith, and that she was more than usually successful as a beginner. Experience, added to the faithfulness manifested this term, will insure success.

Winter term.—Miss Georgietta A. Harvey of Pembroke, teacher. Although this was one of the smallest, yet it was one of the most advanced schools in town. Its course this term was onward and upward, as usual. Both teachers gave all their scholars a good moral deportment. Schools are rarely found so cheerfully obedient as this.

DISTRICT NUMBER NINE.

Amount of school money, \$109.25
John H. Fife, Committee.

Summer and winter terms.—Rev. Geo. D. Garland, teacher of both terms. Wages per month: summer term, \$20; winter term, \$35. Length of school: summer term, 8 weeks; winter term, 11 weeks. Number of scholars: summer term,

17; winter term, 26. Average attendance: summer term, 14 3-5; winter term, 22 52-55.

During the past year, there has been great improvement in scholarship, and a marked effort on the part of the scholars to be orderly, and observe those rules of discipline which are essential to a good school. A warm interest and friendship has existed between scholars and teacher, much to the credit of the school.

DISTRICT NUMBER TEN.

Amount of school money, \$62.53
 Geo. C. Knowles, Committee.

Summer and winter terms.—Miss M. Ella Marden taught both terms. Wages per month: summer term, \$17; winter term, \$20. Length of school: summer term, 6 weeks; winter term, 7 weeks. Number of scholars: summer term, 8; winter term, 14; Average attendance: summer term, 8; winter term, 8.

Any teacher labors at a disadvantage in teaching in the district of his nativity, with pupils, some of whom were once his schoolmates, and all of whom are still his neighbors. Miss Marden knows how to occupy the place of an instructor, and has but little difficulty in keeping her scholars in their place; consequently she succeeded finely in her own district. There was a uniform and decided improvement in all the classes.

DISTRICT NUMBER ELEVEN.—UNION.

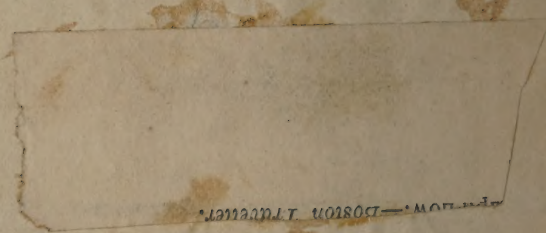
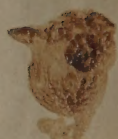
Amount of school money assigned the district by the town of Epsom, \$39.84

This school is under the supervision of the committee of Chichester.

In submitting the foregoing brief statement of the condition of the public schools in town, we have not specified every defect and imperfection, nor commented upon every laudable feature that has been noticed, but have necessarily given only a partial idea of the condition and advancement of our schools

during the past year. We have endeavored, in the discharge of this duty, to state facts as they really exist. As we have not hesitated to commend whatever we thought worthy of praise, so have we not withheld censure from that which we regarded as deserving reproof. With few exceptions, good progress has been made, and both scholars and teachers merit praise. Still, there is ample room for improvement in the most of our schools, and it should be made. If the money expended for school purposes may be said to yield an annual interest, that interest may be increased; for the law, in its wisdom, has not limited the rate per cent. where the interest is received in popular education. The importance of having good schools can hardly be overestimated. Ignorance is allied to crime, and the statistics of our penitentiaries show neglected childhood is criminal manhood. Would you have your children grow up to become respected and useful members of society? Provide good schools for them. Furnish them with suitable books. Prompt them to be constant at school. Visit them there; remembering that as iron sharpens iron, so does a man's presence sharpen the countenance of his friend. They need your sympathy. They need your encouragement.

D. GILMAN CHESLEY,
S. S. Committee.



LOWE'S - DORSET STREET